Regular Session, 2009

ACT No. 524

HOUSE BILL NO. 840

BY REPRESENTATIVE WHITE

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

1	AN ACT
2	To enact R.S. 29:727(I), relative to parish homeland security and emergency preparedness
3	agencies; to provide for the creation of parish emergency management advisory
4	committees; to provide for the membership of the committee; to provide for
5	reporting procedures; and to provide for related matters.
6	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
7	Section 1. R.S. 29:727(I) is hereby enacted to read as follows:
8	§727. Powers of the parish president; penalties for violations
9	* * *
10	I.(1) Each parish or police jury president, through the parish director of
11	homeland security and emergency preparedness appointed pursuant to R.S. 29:728,
12	shall form a parish emergency management advisory committee, to offer advice and
13	counsel to the parish or police jury president on homeland security and emergency
14	management issues set forth in the report prepared in accordance with Paragraph (4)
15	of this Subsection. The parish or police jury president may consider the advice and
16	counsel from the committee on such matters as planning, development, prioritization,
17	coordination, and implementation of homeland security and emergency management
18	issues to include but not be limited to homeland security and emergency
19	management mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery, grant requests, and the
20	expenditure of grant funds.
21	(2) The parish or police jury president shall serve as the chairperson of the
22	committee or shall designate the parish director of homeland security and emergency
23	preparedness to serve as the chairperson. If the parish or police jury president serves

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1	as the chairperson, the parish director of homeland security and emergency
2	preparedness shall serve as vice chairperson of the committee.
3	(3)(a) At a minimum, the committee shall consist of the following for each
4	parish:
5	(i) A fire chief from the parish as a representative of all the fire chiefs in the
6	parish.
7	(ii) A chief executive officer from one of the municipalities of the parish, as
8	a representative of all chief executive officers of the municipalities of the parish.
9	(iii) A police chief from the parish as a representative of all the police chiefs
10	of the parish.
11	(iv) The sheriff of the parish or his designee.
12	(v) A senior executive from the emergency medical services community
13	within the parish.
14	(b) The representatives of the fire chiefs, municipal chief executive officers,
15	police chiefs, and emergency medical services shall be appointed to the committee
16	by those persons holding the same position within the parish.
17	(4) The committee shall meet no less than twice per year and shall submit
18	a report to the director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and
19	Emergency Preparedness on or before April first of each year, commencing on April
20	1, 2010. The annual report shall address those issues identified by the director in
21	consultation with the regional parish office of emergency preparedness parish
22	directors' subcommittee pursuant to R.S. 29:725.6(B)(6)(c) by January first of each
23	<u>year.</u>
24	(5) The requirement of the parish or police jury president to form a parish
25	emergency advisory committee may be satisfied through any existing committee
26	formed within the parish for the purpose of addressing the issues of homeland
27	security and emergency preparedness provided that such existing committee meets
28	the membership requirement set forth in Paragraph (3) of this Subsection.
29	(6) Nothing herein shall restrict or impair the rights and responsibilities of
30	a parish or police jury president to respond to an emergency.

[(7) Nothing herein shall restrict or impair the rights and responsibilities of a
2	committee created by a parish police jury and other local agencies and municipalities
3	pursuant to a joint services agreement to develop and implement a plan in response
1	to an emergency.
	SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
	PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE
	GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

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APPROVED: